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Offerman Delphinium Gardens

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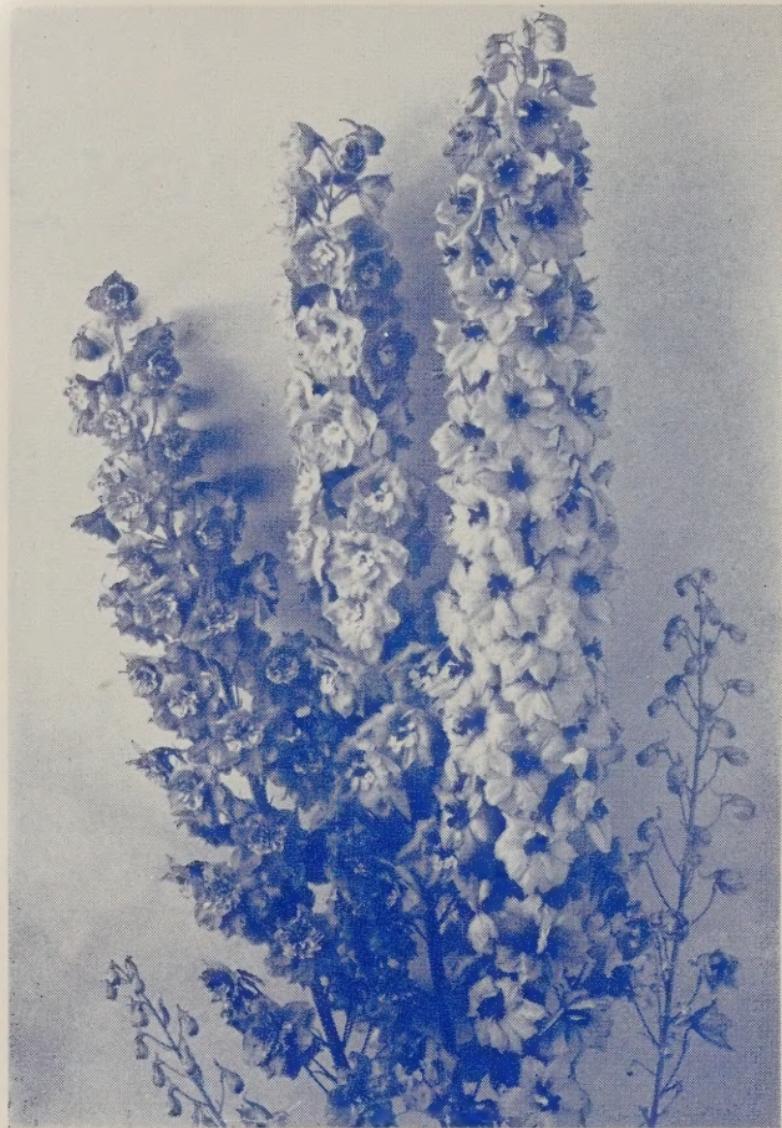
★ FEB 1 5 1952

U. S. Department of Agriculture

*At the National
Delphinium Show in
Cleveland, Ohio,
June, 1950, my
Delphinium spikes won
the American
Delphinium Society Cup.*
—Jack Offerman.



4709 W. STEVENS
SEATTLE 6, WASH.



IMPORTANT SHIPPING INFORMATION

Please read before sending your order.

Seed Orders . . . We enclose culture directions to assist you. When seed arrives, place packets in the refrigerator (not freezing compartment), or in some other cool place, until planting time (Delphinium seed and Primrose seed only).

All seed orders are prepaid.

We ship our plants usually by parcel post. If you wish SPECIAL HANDLING on your parcel, add 20 cents extra, and your parcel will travel as fast as first class mail.

If you prefer shipment by express, please state in your order and we ship express collect.

We ship plants from Coast to Coast.

Before shipping, we trim most of the leaves; this will give the plants a better start to grow. The roots are the fundamental part of the plant; when planted in new soil, keep plants moist for a few days and new growth will appear soon.

Named Series of the Pacific Hybrid Strain

SUMMER SKIES . . . What better words can be chosen for this favorite than the crystal clear, unshaded blue of a bright summer's day. The white bee flashes against the lovely, light blue. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

BLUE BIRD . . . The rare and thrilling flash of the blue-bird's wings is caught in this finest medium delphinium blue. There are slight iridescent hues at the floret tips. A very fine white bee. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

BLUE JAY . . . Every Delphinium lover seeks the true blue color, which is so difficult to obtain. The color is a medium to dark blue, with dark contrasting bee. Individual flowers up to 3 inches in diameter.

GALAHAD . . . Always there is a special beauty to a pure white flower. This series is the triumph of the whites with a frosted sheen folding away from the pure white bee. Flowers up to 4 inches across.

PERCIVAL . . . This is the other giant white that merits a place in this group. All is glistening white but the startling black bee. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

LANCELOT . . . The beautiful flower of this very large Delphinium whispers of the clearest lilac self. Its white bee continues the delicate tones. A rare color in Delphinium. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

GUINEVERE . . . The silken petals are of softest pink-shaded lavender, with good white bee. This is one of the most delicate of the named series. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

CAMELIARD . . . Now the clearest, truest lavender with exceptionally large flowers. The very double flowers swirl from a white bee. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

KING ARTHUR . . . Of course, the King must wear the royal purple, with faint glows of royal blue at the base of the florets. The white bee is like a shining shield upon the regal velvet. Flowers up to 3 inches across.

BLACK KNIGHT . . . The darkest violet of all with the black bee intensifying the mysterious depths of each flower. Even the flower stems are darkest green to accentuate the deep tones. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

ROUND TABLE . . . Here you may have the whole glorious array of all the Pacific Hybrids in new color combinations, always blending into an exciting and beautiful picture. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

DREAM, Pudor's . . . One of the best shadings of sky blue and soft pink originated on the West Coast. White bee. It has very well formed flowers with excellent sheen. Flowers up to 3½ inches across.

SEEDS

Approximately 200 seeds in each full packet.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|---------|----------------------|--------|
| 1 packet, your choice. | \$ 2.00 | 1 half packet | \$1.00 |
| 6 packets, your choice..... | 10.00 | 6 half packets..... | 5.00 |
| 12 packets, your choice..... | 17.50 | 12 half packets..... | 9.00 |

We Carry Trade Packets to Growers and Nurseries

Offerman Delphinium Gardens

LaGrande, Oregon

My display of Delphinium at the Union County fair, has been awarded a Blue Ribbon. I have been raising these plants from your seed. It is almost unbelievable how large these plants have grown in our short summer season, some of the bloom stalks are 4 to 5 feet high, with individual blooms 3 to 4 inches in diameter.

Mrs. M. Folsom

DELphinium Plants

From March to June and September to November we are offering strong-rooted seedling plants in the superb Giant Pacific Hybrid Strain. Transplanted, they will grow rapidly; they will bloom from summer until frost. All the exquisite delphinium colors are included in the plants—deep blue, sky-blue, lavender, pure white, violet purples and pinks shaded lavender, with individual blossoms up to 4 inches across. We also ship the named series in the seedling plants, but we do not label the seedling plants.

FIELD GROWN PLANTS

\$4.50 per dozen postpaid

\$2.75 per half dozen postpaid to your door

PLANTS OF NAMED VARIETIES

that have already bloomed in our gardens

\$1.50 each or \$15.00 per dozen

Express collect. No order less than three plants

Make your own selection from page 3

OFFERMAN'S SILVER QUEEN

It has all the opalescent splendor of true Mother of Pearl, shining from the bud through to the shimmering loveliness of the huge double flowers. It brings to one all the soft shades of distant mountains in a summer twilight.

The bee, whatever the intensity of white, or brown, or black, lends an enchantment to each flower. I never have been sure which bee I like best for this flower.

As Silver Queen opens, it is as if a bright moonbeam has come to shine upon each flower, sending the twilight colors into the shadows, leaving only a breath of opalescence in its silvery light.

SEEDS

1 packet (200 seeds).....\$3.00

OFFERMAN'S EXHIBITION STRAIN

The finest mixture from the excellent stock of Offerman Gardens. For the Delphinium grower who enjoys new color combinations and the fun of trying the "unknown" this will be his choice. From this Strain came our largest flower this season, measuring 4½ inches across.

SEEDS

1 packet, approx. 250 seeds.....\$2.00

Clumps of the Exhibition Strain \$10.00 per dozen or \$5.50 per half dozen, shipped Express collect. I add more plants to make up the Express charges.

Seattle, Wash.

Last summer (1949) I visited your garden. It was a joy to see all the large beauties in full bloom. I still like that plant of the raspberry shade, and my offer, 10 dollars, for this particular plant is still open. Please let me know. Thanks.

Mrs. Tedd Garlatz.

NEW DOUBLE PINK AND ROSE SHADES

ASTOLAT SERIES . . . The first group of entirely novel shades in delphinium, which adds a new chapter in American delphinium history. The color variation extends from pale blush through all shades of lilac pink to deep raspberry rose, with large contrasting brown, fawn, yellow and black bees. Individual flowers are quite large, reaching the 3 inch diameter. The growth and form of spikes are of top notch quality. The extremely piquant air of the novel shades catches everyone's eye in the garden.

Price Half packet \$2.50 — Full packet \$5.00

PRIVAT STRAIN

Privat Strain consists of seeds selected from plants of the above mentioned **ASTOLAT SERIES**—seeds of Silver Queen—and seeds of new crosses, from flowers reaching 4 inches and more across. If you wish this unusual combination in your garden, order early, or you will be disappointed.

Price 1 packet (200 seeds) — \$3.25

ALWAYS PLANT SEED IN THE SHADE



OFFERMAN ADVICE . . .

Each year I receive many letters asking for advice on Delphinium culture. With the hope that a few of my notes may be of help, I will answer some of the most-asked questions.

ABOUT THE SEEDS . . . There are two seasons to start Delphiniums from seed, Spring and August. In parts of the country that have cold winters, the summer sowing should be done between July 15th-August 1st to give the seedlings a better "toe-hold" for winter. **The spring planting will bloom in the fall of the same year.**

For the soil in flats; contrary to belief, leaf mold is not essential, but sand is VERY IMPORTANT. Lighten the garden soil with sand, thoroughly mixed together. The top layer of the soil should be finely sifted, ready for the seed. To be sure the seed is not buried too deeply, I strongly advise broadcasting the seed and then sifting fine soil over the surface ONLY THE THICKNESS OF A DIME. Press the planted soil down gently . . . not too hard. Water with fine spray and cover seedbed with moist burlap or wet paper. Remove the covering as soon as the seeds come up. Remember too, a shaded seed flat is easier to keep moist and much better for the tiny sprouted seeds than too frequent watering. Good, fresh seed should germinate in 10 days to 2 weeks.

ABOUT TRANSPLANTING . . . When the seedlings are about 1½ to 2 inches high, they will have three true leaves and are ready to be moved. Depending upon the sowing time, they will either go into a coldframe or lathed seed bed in temperate climate for the winter. As soon as the frosts are over and the soil is warming up, transplant in permanent position about two feet apart.

ABOUT FERTILIZER . . . We use "Compost" to all our plants. When planting out our young stock, we prepare the hole by adding this compost, mix it with the soil, and set in the plant. If you are not familiar with the making of compost, drop a line to Organic Gardening, Emmaus, Penna., who will send you literature. Barnyard manures as cow, sheep or horse should be dug a foot deep into the soil; however, always mix lime with manures. If chicken manure is used, spread on top of soil and let the rain do the rest.

ABOUT THE SOIL . . . The looser the soil, the larger the flowers. Delphinium roots are thin and go straight down. This is why the soil under the roots must be loose; and the deeper it is prepared, the better the plant can function. If your soil contains clay, add plenty of leaf mold and sand or compost. In a few years you will find a difference in the soil. Give your plants loose soil; give plenty of water and sunshine and the joys of beautiful delphiniums will be yours.

FOR ADDED PLEASURE OF YOUR FAVORITE FLOWER JOIN THE AMERICAN DELPHINIUM SOCIETY

Beautiful yearbook containing history of the newest developments in the Delphinium world.

MEMBERSHIP \$3.00 PER YEAR
Write to:

JACK OFFERMAN

Northwestern Vice-President American Delphinium Society
4709 W. Stevens, Seattle 6, Washington

North Sedgwick, Maine
I entered a spike of your white Galahad at the flower show and had many comments on it; needless to say, I took 1st prize with it.

Gertrude S. Allen

Plymouth, N.H.

I had wonderful blossoms from the plants I raised from your seed. There was a good variety of colors. I received first prize on some of the spikes at the Fall show. I read a wonderful piece about your Delphiniums in the Flower Grower and it surely made me want to raise more plants.

Mrs. E. Avery



A GIANT PASTEL POLYANTHUS

GIANT POLYANTHUS PRIMROSES

This Giant Primrose is not only Spring's Harbinger, but its bright and fragrant giant blooms stay on to welcome Summer, for this Hardy Primrose offers a long season of bloom, and an extensive variety of colors and forms.

TANGO SUPREME . . . Immense ruffled blooms measuring up to 3 inches across. The color range is wide, but the orange shades predominate, tango, ruffled yellow and deep sunset shadings, many with distinct two-tone markings, others with fancy edges. A great prize winner. \$3.00 per packet of 300 seeds, or \$2.00 for 175 seeds.

"PINK AND ROSE SHADES" . . . Enormous frilled blooms measuring up to 3 inches across in lovely shades of soft pink to rose and claret—a great prize winner. \$4.00 per pack of 300 seeds, or \$2.00 for 150 seeds.

Above mentioned two strains in **one** mixture. \$3.50 per packet of 300 seeds, or \$1.75 for 150 seeds.

Choice Primrose seed from England, Holland and Australia's leading growers, which we believe is the finest mixture in the giant flowering Primroses. \$2.00 per packet of 275 seeds, or \$1.00 for 125 seeds.

PRIMROSE HORTENSIS . . . Blue and purple shades from Holland. $\frac{1}{2}$ packet \$1.25 (150 seeds); full packet \$2.50 (300 seeds).

NEW PRIMULA VERIS ACAULIS GIGANTEA . . . all colors in the mixture. $\frac{1}{2}$ packet \$1.25 (150 seeds); full packet \$2.50 (300 seeds).

Culture directions are included with seed order.

Primrose plants 50 cents each or \$5.00 per dozen, postpaid.

PLANT SEED IN THE SHADE



SWISS GIANT PANSIES

NEW GIANT LONSPURRED COLUMBINE (*AQUILEGIA*) from Holland

HOLLANDIA GIANT . . . Of all the Columbine we have seen this new giant-flowering strain from Holland surpasses them all. The flowers, in a wide range of rich and varied colors are ideal to use in vases, with their long stems and naturally graceful airy arrangement.

LONGISSIMA . . . Long spurred, mostly yellow, others pastel shades.

CRIMSON STAR . . . Dark red sepals and spurs, white petals.
Your choice: Half packet \$0.75 — Full packet \$1.50 (300 seeds).
Plants in mixed colors 50 cents each or \$4.50 per 10 plants, postpaid.

PANSY SEED from Holland

Here are three varieties of the large flowering Pansies, which we are fortunate to be able to offer you.

THE NEW SWISS GIANT PANSIES . . . Finest mixture, seed direct from Holland.

ROGGLI STRAIN . . . Giant flowering Pansies, finest grown in Holland, in the mixture only.

MAXIMA . . . Giant flowering in many shades, in the mixture only.
Seed direct from Holland.

Your choice: Half packet \$0.75 — Full packet \$1.50 (400 seeds).

PLANTING DIRECTIONS . . . Plant pansy seed any time from March until October in loose soil. Keep seed bed moist and shaded. Transplant the seedlings when large enough to handle in rows about 3 inches apart both ways. When plants have strong root system plant in permanent place. A bed or border of Swiss Pansies is indescribably beautiful.